

From: Mooring, Guilford
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2010 11:41 AM
To: Murphy, Nancy
Subject: FW: Eastman Lane & North Pleasant Street Intersection Improvement.

From: Jeffrey Wolfman [<mailto:jwolfman@comcast.net>]
Sent: Wed 5/5/2010 3:25 PM
To: Mooring, Guilford
Subject: Re: Eastman Lane & North Pleasant Street Intersection Improvement.

Mr Mooring

Trying to cross the street on the Umass campus, where the speed limit is already 25 is often incredibly difficult. On Governors drive there has always been a second cross walk set a little bit down from where the light has been on North Pleasant Street. Over the years I have seen many a pedestrian almost hit there. Right now in the present configuration, where people have to slow down because of the curve of the road I have continued to see pedestrians almost hit in that same crosswalk. Before I sent you my initial e-mail I looked at the proposal. There is no presentation that is going to make me think that crossing in this new proposed configuration will be safe without at minimum pedestrian crossing lights.

Jean Marie Wolfman

On May 5, 2010, at 3:07 PM, Mooring, Guilford wrote:

Ms. Wolfman,

Thank you for sending me a location. There are very few roundabouts in this state, many are planned. What you are thinking are roundabouts are really rotaries they are about 6 times the size of a roundabout. Since a roundabout is so much smaller the design speed is 20-25 mph. If you go to this web site, www.amherstma.gov/eastman there is a presentation that explains many of the differences of a roundabout and a rotary. Mass Dot is building a roundabout in Northampton now. It is at the intersection of Route 9 and Route 9A near the entrance to Look park. There is also a completed 2 lane roundabout in Brattleboro VT on route 9 before crossing into New Hampshire.

Please take a look at the information and please feel free to ask any questions.

Guilford Mooring

From: Jeffrey Wolfman [<mailto:jwolfman@comcast.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 05, 2010 11:39 AM
To: Mooring, Guilford
Subject: Re: Eastman Lane & North Pleasant Street Intersection Improvement.

We lived between Arnold's Arboretum and Jamaica Pond and there were also a number of roundabouts in Brookline we had to deal with. I lived most of my life in the Boston area and have been here in Amherst for the last 15. As a pedestrian it was always incredibly difficult and scary to cross the street at these roundabouts.

I feel a terrible and dangerous mistake is being made at the expense of pedestrians.

Jean Marie Wolfman

On Apr 30, 2010, at 11:25 AM, Mooring, Guilford wrote:

Ms, Wolfman,

Can you give me a more exact location and time frame of the two roundabouts in Jamaica Plain and Brookline?

Guilford Mooring
Superintendent of Public Works

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeffrey Wolfman [<mailto:jwolfman@comcast.net>]

Posted At: Friday, April 30, 2010 9:25 AM

Posted To: Public Works

Conversation: Eastman Lane & North Pleasant Street Intersection Improvement.

Subject: Eastman Lane & North Pleasant Street Intersection Improvement.

Attention: Guilford B Mooring

I am sending this e-mail because no one in my family can make it to the meeting on Tuesday, May 4th at 7:10.

As a long time resident of Farview Way my first comment is that calling this project an improvement is a misnomer.

I am absolutely opposed to ANY change that does not include vehicle stop lights and pedestrian cross lights. A number of years ago we lived near a roundabouts in both Jamaica Plain and Brookline. And a few times each week we needed to lend our phone to a driver who had just gotten into an accident. Roundabouts are also incredibly dangerous for pedestrians.

Over the time this current project has been going on we have watched many a pedestrian almost hit on Governors Drive . And watched them struggle to get across North Pleasant Street. We have avoided walking to the campus that we used to walk to almost daily because of the difficulty crossing the intersections. I think a roundabout will only make crossing the street more difficult, never mind making it more difficult for drivers.

I am dismayed that on a campus where there are already a number of pedestrians hit each year and with a large number of younger drivers that a roundabout is even being considered as an option.

Jean Marie Wolfman